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# *Champion's Point of View*



by RDML CRAIG E. BONE  
*U.S. Coast Guard Director of Inspection & Compliance Directorate*

Nationally and internationally there has been a substantial increase in the security of the Global Maritime Transportation System since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. The implementation of the International Port and Facility Security (ISPS) Code in July 2004 and the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) of 2002 has established a sound foundation of preparedness throughout all segments of the maritime transportation system.

While much has been done, there is no room for complacency. This *Proceedings* issue is meant to acknowledge efforts and challenges to work systematically to address innumerable potential threats. We need to also consider the lessons learned from natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, and modify our planning to account for previously unforeseen obstacles in preventing, responding to, and recovering from devastating incidents.

Many of the articles covered in this issue represent the first public description of the Coast Guard's new capabilities and capacities in port security. There are more than 70 current initiatives that have either been completed, or are in the process of completion, which will strengthen the foundation of MTSA and ISPS. There are significant challenges to solidify security in the global maritime transportation system. Government agencies and industry will need to continually address and share best practices concerning threat and risk models, utilization of new technologies, development of needed standards for identification cards, vessel tracking systems, and training.

In this issue, we solicited a variety of topics and viewpoints from the project leaders in the Coast Guard and other partner stakeholders. I would like to sincerely thank the authors for their time and talent putting together contributions for this edition. We have no choice but to move forward and institutionalize port security practices worldwide, the threat is real and the risk and consequences severe. Terrorists will continue to look for ways to exploit the gaps and vulnerabilities within the Global Marine Transportation System and parts of our critical infrastructure. We must remain vigilant and tenacious in our efforts, if we are to thwart terrorism.